Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 15, 22 and 36 are pending in the application with claim 15 being the independent claim. Claims 16-21, 23-35 and 37-39 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 15 and 22 are free of the prior art.

The current specification has been amended to insert the Substitute Sequence Listing, submitted herewith, in order to insert sequence identifiers where amino acid sequences are recited in the specification and in order to reflect the current priority claim. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), the paper copy of the Substitute Sequence Listing and the computer readable copy of the Substitute Sequence Listing submitted herewith in the above-captioned application are the same. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(g), this submission includes no new matter.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and request that they be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully request that the application be deemed sufficient for allowance.

Sequence Rule Compliance

The Office Action states that the specification recites amino acid sequences, for example on pages 5, 11, 20-21, that are not accompanied with sequence identifiers.

Paper No. 14, page 7. Applicants have amended the specification to insert sequence identifiers where amino acid sequences are recited in the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, written description

Claims 16-18, 23, and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking an adequate written description. Paper No. 14, page 7. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 16-18, 23, and 35. The rejection has therefore been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, enablement

Claims 34-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly not reasonably providing enablement for a method for inducing a cytotoxic T lymphocyte "in vivo." Paper No. 14, pages 11-12. Applicants have cancelled claims 34-35. The rejection has therefore been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a or e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wang et al. (Genbank Accession No. AC 095146) or by WO 99/18206 A2. Paper No. 14, page 20. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 16-18. The rejection has therefore been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wang et al. (Genbank Accession No. AC 095146) or by WO 99/18206 A2 in view

of Johnstone and Thorpe. Paper No. 14, page 22. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claim 23. The rejection has therefore been rendered moot.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all currently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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